

**May 28, 2021**



**Dear friend,**

**The last Monday in May is reserved as a day to honor and remember those we have lost in military service to our country. Originally known as Decoration Day, the commemoration originated in the years following the U.S. Civil War and became an official U.S. holiday in 1971. Many Americans mark the day with visits to memorials or cemeteries, as well as parades and barbecues. However you choose to celebrate, don't forget the men and women behind the celebration, those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.**

**Sincerely,**

*Bob*

## In Case You Missed It

# small business **SPOTLIGHT**



### *Racine's Longshot Vinyl Has Got You Covered for Music Both Classic and New*



Music on vinyl records has made a big comeback in recent years. Longshot Vinyl in Racine has gotten in on the craze, buying and selling new and used records across numerous genres. The friendly, knowledgeable staff will help you find just what you are looking for in a fun, hip atmosphere. Sharing retail space with Perennial Soaps, the shop is filled with interesting artwork and a unique vibe. Check them out on [Facebook](#) or their [website](#).



### *Republican-Led Joint Finance Committee Slash Governor Evers' K-12 Funding Proposal, Put Federal Education Money at Risk*

The Republican-controlled Joint Finance Committee (JFC) met again to take action on the state budget on Thursday, May 27. The focus this time was K-12 and higher education funding, and the results were dismal. While Governor Evers had proposed a \$1 billion increase in K-12 funding for the 2021-2023 biennium, including an additional \$700 million more toward special ed, the committee's GOP signed off on just \$150 million more in total K-12 funding, with \$109 million of that earmarked for special ed. Under the proposal, \$350 million would be placed aside to potentially be released for future use by K-12 schools, and schools that provided in-person instruction for more than 50% of the 2021-2021 school year would receive an extra \$39 per student over schools that did not meet that benchmark. A provision of federal Covid relief legislation passed in 2020 and 2021 requires that the proportion of state spending allocated to K-12 and higher education in the upcoming fiscal year be maintained at the same levels as the state's average allocation in the fiscal years between 2016 and 2018 in order to receive federal Covid stimulus funds for schools; a memo drafted by the non-partisan Legislative Fiscal Bureau states that the Republican plan puts these federal funds at risk.



## ***Republicans Make Quick Work of Special Session on BadgerCare Expansion, Gaveling Out without a Single Second of Debate***

Republican opposition and obstruction to the highly-popular, financially beneficial and morally decent BadgerCare expansion proposal continued this week, as they quickly ended a special session on the issue called by Governor Evers without so much as a word of debate. Earlier this year, Evers included full BadgerCare expansion, and the federal funds that come with it, in his budget proposal, but Republicans on the Joint Finance Committee removed the provision in one of their first votes. Wisconsin Republicans have thrown up roadblocks to BadgerCare/Medicaid expansion for nearly a decade, in spite of polls consistently showing bipartisan public support and the increased \$1.6 billion that the expansion would bring Wisconsin in federal funds. Additionally, the expansion would provide healthcare coverage for 90,000 of our state's most vulnerable people.



## ***Vos, State Republicans Continue Trump’s “Big Lie”, Spend Taxpayer Money on “Investigators”***

Wisconsin has become the latest state where Republicans are employing taxpayer dollars in an effort to amplify Donald Trump’s “Big Lie” and cast doubt on the 2020 Presidential election results. Assembly Speaker Robin Vos (R-Rochester) announced this week that the Legislature’s Republican leadership is using taxpayer money to hire “investigators” to look into possible irregularities or fraud in the 2020 election. Since they were hired by the Legislature, these investigators will have subpoena power. Multiple election-integrity experts, including Republican election officials across numerous states, have declared that 2020 was one of the most security, and certainly most scrutinized, elections in our country’s history. This hasn’t stopped Republicans nationwide from taking Trump’s ball and running with it, enacting draconian voter suppression laws and conducting their own, highly biased and partisan “audits”, such as what is currently taking place in Arizona. The Republican legislature in that state hired a firm owned and operated by a Trump-supporting conspiracy theorist to conduct this “audit”, turning over access to the actual ballots and voting machines in the process; even Republican officials in the state have called for that sham to end. Republicans in Michigan, Pennsylvania and Georgia have made attempts at such “audits” as well.



## ***“Wisconsin Tomorrow” Small Business Recovery Grant Application Period Opens***

Applications for the \$420 million Wisconsin Tomorrow Small Business Recovery Grant program are now being accepted. The grants, available to Wisconsin small businesses with annual gross revenue between \$10,000 and \$7 million, will award 84,000 recipients with a flat \$5,000 each. Applications must be completed by 4:30 pm on Monday, June 7. Those interested in more information, including the application, can find it [here](#).



## ***City of Kenosha Mask Requirement Ends; Those Not Fully Vaccinated Should Continue to Mask Up***

The City of Kenosha's face mask requirement expired on Thursday, May 27. In response, Dr. Jen Freiheit, Kenosha County Health Officer, issued a series of recommendations. First on the list is that people who are not yet fully vaccinated should continue to wear a mask while indoor public places or where physical distancing is not possible. She also recommends the wearing of masks where people are gathered when vaccination status is unknown. Finally, she reminded everyone that there are certain settings where everyone should still continue to mask up, regardless of vaccination status, including: health care settings; K-12 schools; correctional and detention facilities; homeless shelters; public transportation; and local businesses and workplaces that still require masks.



### ***Available Vaccinations***

Kenosha County operates a Covid-19 Vaccine Call Center. The call center is open to people who don't have access to schedule a vaccination appointment online. These people can call (262)605-6799 to speak with someone who will walk them through the appointment process. The online list of Kenosha



County Covid vaccine providers is still available, at <http://bit.ly/KCCCOVIDHub>, as well. You can use the above link to find appointment times.

A list of Racine area vaccination providers is available at <https://crchd.com/covid-19-vaccine#Locations>. Use this link to find information on locations and appointment availability.



### ***Local Covid Testing Options***

There are a number of options locally for anyone looking to get tested. Your primary health care provider is always an option, but there are many community testing sites available, as well.

**CVS Pharmacy:** Drive-through testing available at CVS in Kenosha (3710 57th Ave.) and Racine (3915 Durand Ave.); advance registration required at <https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/covid-19-testing>

**Froedert South:** Drive-through testing is available to those who qualify after completing an initial phone evaluation at (262)671-7777 between 8 am and 4:30 pm Monday-Friday

**Kenosha Community Medical Center:** A drive-through testing site at the former Chase Bank, 5506 Seventh Ave., is open to patients who complete a quick registration process at <https://www.kenoshachc.org/covid-19-resource-center/>. Testing is conducted Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 am to 4 pm.

**Old Kenosha Fire Station No. 3:** Free, drive-through testing will be offered during the following hours at the former No. 3 Fire Station, 2121 Roosevelt Rd., Kenosha: Tuesdays, 2-6 pm; Thursdays, 2-6 pm; Saturdays, 9 am - 1 pm. This testing is being offered in a partnership between locally-owned Modern Apothecary, the Wisconsin DHS, and the Kenosha Fire Department. An appointment and preregistration is strongly encouraged, with appointment times available at <https://modernapothecary.10to8.com> and registration available at <https://register.covidconnect.wi.gov>. Anyone who lives or works in Wisconsin, ages 5 and over, can be tested.

UW System schools statewide, including Parkside, have been provided with a limited number of rapid-result Covid-19 tests. These tests provide results in 15-30 minutes. The tests are free of charge and available to the public, and you don't have to have symptoms to get a test. A positive rapid test will need to be confirmed with the regular Covid-19 test but will provide you some guidance on whether or not you need to quarantine during that period. Registration at <https://www.doineedacovid19test.com> is required. The tests are administered in De Simone Gym in the SAC on the Parkside campus Monday-Thursday, 9 am - 5 pm, and Friday, 9 am - 1 pm. Testing is expected to last at least several weeks.

<https://www.uwp.edu/explore/news/surge-testing.cfm>

# BADGER BOUNCEBACK

## LIVE SESSIONS

### *Budget News and Details*

To read a detailed and in-depth analysis of Governor Evers' budget proposal, you can visit the Department of Administration's Executive Budget page, <https://doa.wi.gov/Pages/2021-23%20Executive%20Budget.aspx>. You can also find a nonpartisan analysis of the Governor's budget proposal by the Legislative Reference Bureau at [https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/lrb/010\\_2021\\_budget\\_bill\\_analysis.pdf](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/lrb/010_2021_budget_bill_analysis.pdf) and follow Joint Finance Committee action on the budget at <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2021/committees/joint/2293>.